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(54) Title: A TORQUE TOOL WITH FAULT PROTECTION AND A METHOD OF OPERATING THE SAME

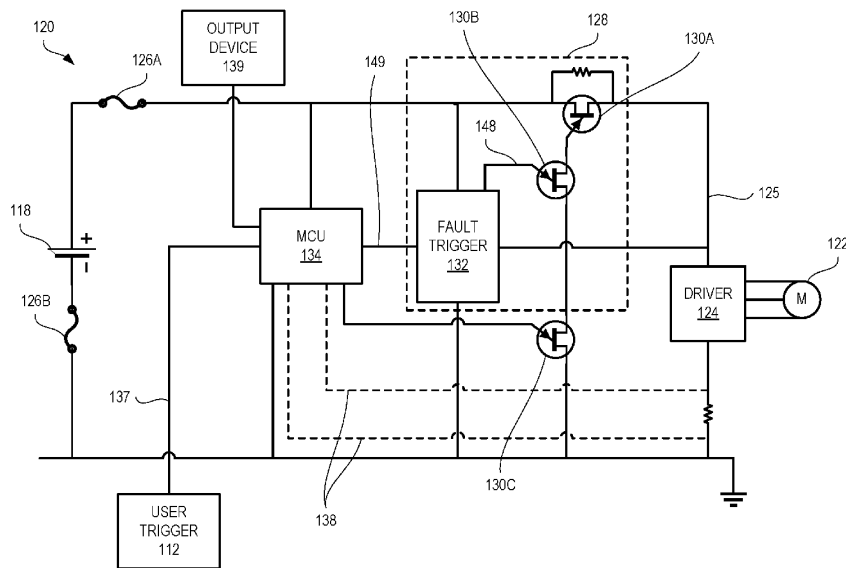


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: A torque tool for generating a predetermined torque, and a method of operating the same are disclosed. A driver is connected, via a thermal fuse, to a motor and receives a power signal from an electrical power source. The thermal fuse stops power to the driver under prolonged supply of power to the driver. A comparator, receiving the power signal and a reference signal, is coupled to a solid-state switch operable based on a fault signal that is generated by the comparator. The solid-state switch is connected to the driver and the electrical power source in series with the thermal fuse to rapidly stop power to the driver in response to the voltage level of the power signal falling below a threshold voltage without the thermal fuse stopping the power signal.

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